

What is claimed is:

1. A system for enabling telephony services when roaming in a visited mobile network to a user subscribing to a home mobile network and having a prepaid account with a balance at said home mobile network, the system comprising:

- a home intelligent gateway integrated into said home mobile network;
- a visited intelligent gateway integrated into said visited mobile network; and
- a global packet switch network connected to said home intelligent gateway and to said visited intelligent gateway,

said home intelligent gateway and said visited intelligent gateway configured to communicate via said global packet switch network in order to manage said telephony services in real-time according to said balance.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein said home mobile network has a prepaid system and said home intelligent gateway includes an interface to said prepaid system.

3. The system of claim 2, wherein said home intelligent gateway is configured to retrieve said balance via said interface, to calculate an allowed call duration based upon said balance, and to transfer said allowed call duration in time units to said visited intelligent gateway via said global packet switch network.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein said system further comprises a signaling connection control part signal relay point platform integrated into said home intelligent gateway for relaying signaling

connection control part messages between said home mobile network and said visited mobile network.

5. A method for enabling telephony services when roaming in a visited mobile network to a user subscribing to a home mobile network and having a prepaid account with a balance at said home mobile network, the method comprising the step of:

communicating via a global packet switch network connecting a home intelligent gateway integrated into said home mobile network and a visited intelligent gateway integrated into said visited mobile network in order to manage said telephony services in real-time according to said balance.

10 6. A method for registering a user subscribing to a home mobile network and roaming in a visited mobile network, said home mobile network having a home intelligent gateway integrated therein that is connected to a global packet switch network, the method comprising the steps of:

15 refusing to register said user if said visited mobile network does not have a visited intelligent gateway integrated therein that is connected to said global packet switch network; and

20 registering said user at said visited mobile network if said visited mobile network has a visited intelligent gateway integrated therein that is connected to said global packet switch network.

7. A method for enabling telephony services when roaming in a visited mobile network to a user subscribing to a home mobile network and

having a prepaid account with a balance at said home mobile network, the method comprising the steps of:

registering said user in said visited mobile network; and

placing mobile originated calls from said visited mobile network if a home intelligent gateway integrated into said home mobile network communicates via a global packet switch network a sufficient allowed call duration to a visited intelligent gateway integrated into said visited mobile network.

8. The method of claim 7, the method further comprising the steps of:

enabling said user to recharge said balance during a mobile originated call; and

enabling said user to continue said mobile originated call ^{if} said balance has been sufficiently recharged.

9. A method for enabling telephony services when roaming in a visited mobile network to a user subscribing to a home mobile network and having a prepaid account with a balance at said home mobile network, the method comprising the steps of:

registering said user in said visited mobile network; and

placing mobile terminated calls to said visited mobile network if said visited mobile network has a visited intelligent gateway integrated therein that is connected to said global packet switch network.

10. The method of claim 9, the method further comprising the steps of:

enabling said user to recharge said balance during a mobile terminated call; and

enabling said user to continue said mobile terminated call said balance has been sufficiently recharged.

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